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DD/s 58-2756

JUL 12 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Matthew Baird

Matt:

I have read the attached report and in particular those portions to which you directed my attention. Although you have not specifically endorsed the conclusions of the report, I understand you have indicated similar views.

The report confirms my past understanding of the OFC objective and the scope of topical coverage included. However, it does not alter my belief that the senior Support officers assigned throughout the headquarters and field establishments of the Clandestine Services should have the training provided by the OFC. Therefore, I would not approve Recommendation No. 6. As to Recommendation No. 4, it has been my understanding for the past several years that the Medical Staff routinely passes on the physical capacity of all students scheduled for this Course.

I agree with the view that preparation of Support people for assignment within the DD/P Area should include a course such as "Operations Support" and intend that this shall continue to be done generally in the case of officers in the middle and junior grades.

One aspect of the report which concerns me is the inference that students consider the purpose of the OFC is "to see how much a person can take." I know that a small number of people can be expected to have this view of any course, but I think that this should not be the prevalent opinion and that students generally should have a principal impression of learning during training courses rather than of being tested. This is particularly important in the case of courses which serve primarily personnel who have been with the Agency for some time as distinguished from new EODs. I believe that we should look into this to see whether the training objectives of the course can not be reached better by more emphasis on imparting knowledge and understanding and less emphasis upon measuring the students' degree of knowledge.

Please let me have your views on this after you have inquired into the matter.

SA-DD/S;JER:ljh

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DD/s-58-2571 - "Audit Report - Operations Training Course No. 14."